

APPROVED-8/11/2011

There was a regular meeting of the Cumberland School Committee held on Thursday, July 14, 2011 at the Cumberland High School Auditorium, 2600 Mendon Road, Cumberland, Rhode Island.

Members Present: Jeff Mutter, Lisa Beaulieu, John Gibbons, Daniel Pedro, Erika Sanzi, Earl Wood. Linda Teel left after the Executive Session meeting that was held prior to this meeting.

Administration Present: Dr. Susan Carney, Assistant Superintendent, Joseph A. Rotella, Director of Administration

Agenda Item #1: Chairman Convenes Meeting
Chairman convened the meeting at 7:32 p.m.

Agenda Item #2: Pledge of Allegiance

Agenda Item #3: Approval of Agenda

Mr. Wood made a motion to approve the agenda, 2nd Mr. Pedro, approved 6-0.

Agenda Item #4: Consent Agenda

Mrs. Beaulieu made a motion to approve the following minutes, 2nd Mrs. Sanzi, approved 6-0: Health & Wellness 5/4/11, Regular Meeting 6/9/11, Special Meeting 6/13/11, Special Meeting 6/20/11, Special

Meeting 6/23/11, Special Meeting 6/27/11, Special Meeting 6/28/11, Executive Session 6/2/11, Executive Session 6/9/11, Executive Session 6/23/11, Executive Session 6/27/11.

Executive Session of 6/28/11 was pulled off the agenda and will be put on the next meeting's agenda.

Agenda Item #5: Chairperson's Report

There was no report at this time.

Agenda Item #6: Comments from the Public

No comments at this time.

Agenda Item #7: Reports of Standing Committees

A. Payment of Bills ¶ Mr. Wood made a motion to approve the payment of invoices totaling \$1,135,094.33, 2nd Mr. Gibbons, approved 6-0.

B. Discussion of FY 12 Budget ¶ Mr. Wood said there was a brief discussion at the finance meeting, but nothing to report. They will be making some amendments at the next meeting.

Agenda Item #8: New Business

A. Recalls ¶ Mr. Rotella had the following recalls:

Recalls

I recommend that the action taken by the school committee on February 17, 2011 not to renew the employment of the following for the 2011½2012 school year, be rescinded:

fâ Jessica Francis, (#310), recall to the position of Elementary Teacher at Systemwide, effective 7/15/2011.

fâ Christine Payson, (#342) recall to the position of Mathematics Teacher at North Cumberland Middle School, effective 7/15/2011.

fâ Jessica Rock, (#387), recall to the position of Art Teacher at Systemwide, effective 7/15/2011.

fâ Stephanie Sadler, (#277), recall to the position of Elementary Teacher at Systemwide, effective 7/15/2011.

fâ Kiara Tracey, (#311), recall to the position of Elementary Teacher at Systemwide, effective 7/15/2011.

Mr. Rotella said that they were working on more recalls for the next meeting, some emergency certifications were still needed. Mrs. Beaulieu asked that Dr. Thornton gets a packet of all recalls, where we are and what is left. Mr. Rotella said that they had met with Dr. Thornton earlier in the day and that they will keep him updated. Mrs. Beaulieu then made a motion to approve all of the above recalls, 2nd Mr. Wood and Mr. Pedro, approved 6-0.

B. Discussion and/or vote to approve interim position for Superintendent of Schools ½ Mr. Wood and Mrs. Beaulieu made a motion to make Dr. Susan Carney the interim Superintendent thru 7/25/11 ½ retro 7/1/11, 2nd Mr. Gibbons, approved 6-0.

C. Discussion and/or vote to approve appointment of Elementary

Principal ¶ Dr. Carney noted that for this position as well as the middle school Assistant Principal, there was a screening process in which the finalists were brought forward to her and she chose Judy Bassignani for Principal of Garvin School, and Bethany Coughlin for the Assistant Principal's position at McCourt Middle School. Mrs. Beaulieu made a motion to approve Judy Bassignani as Principal of Garvin Memorial School effective 7/25/11, 2nd Mrs. Sanzi, approved 6-0.

D. Discussion and/or vote to approve the appointment of Middle School Assistant Principal ¶ Mrs. Beaulieu made a motion to approve Bethany Coughlin as Assistant Principal at Joseph L. McCourt Middle School effective 8/9/11, 2nd Mr. Pedro, approved 6-0. Dr. Carney noted that Mrs. Bassignani comes to us from the Franklin School System and Bethany Coughlin has been with the Cumberland School System for several years as a Math teacher.

Agenda Item #9: Personnel Recommendations

Dr. Carney had the following personnel recommendations:

Appointments

I request the advice and consent of the School Committee on the appointment of Judith Bassignani, Elementary Principal, at Garvin Memorial School, effective 7/25/2011.

I request the advice and consent of the School Committee on the appointment of Bethany Coughlin, Middle School Assistant Principal, at Joseph L. McCourt Middle School, effective 8/9/2011.

See agenda item #8 for vote.

Agenda Item #10: Comments from the Public

Amanda McLaughlin spoke about an essay that her son jV who is a Junior at CHS jV wrote for a writing project in school. It talked about the number of dropouts in our high school and how vocational students need to go to Woonsocket for certain subjects which used to be offered at CHS. He thinks that most students would rather stay at their own high school rather than going to Woonsocket and he believes this is part of the problem of the rise in dropouts. He also pointed out that a Business Math should be offered rather than making students take Algebra 1 & 2. Some students do not need this if they are not attending college jV Business Math would help out more in every day life, such as balancing a checkbook. The diploma system has changed so much that it is geared more towards students that are going on to college, but there should be other options for the students that choose to go to a vocational school or technical school, etc.

Agenda Item #11: School Committee Comments (School Liaison Reports)

No reports at this time.

Agenda Item #12: Vote to go into Executive Session for Discussion on Items Referred to in R.I.G.L. 42-46-5:

A. Personnel Matters jV Exception (1)

1) CTA/ICSE

B. Negotiations/Litigation iV Exception (2)

1) CTA/ICSE 2) Potential Litigation 3) Contract Negotiations

Mr. Rotella said there would be no Executive Session tonight.

Agenda Item #13: Adjournment

Mrs. Beaulieu made a motion to adjourn, 2nd Mr. Pedro, approved 6-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:54 p.m.

Meeting minutes respectfully submitted by Linda A. Jackvony